

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A multi-channel audio signal processing device ~~provided with~~ comprising:

_____ signal supply means for supplying coded audio signals through several input channels, and for each input channel, through
5 separate sub-channels ~~which cover~~ covering distinct frequency sub-band domains, ~~;~~ and ~~provided with~~

_____ ~~one or several~~ synthesis or reconstruction filters (SFB) for decoding and synthesizing audio signals over the total frequency domain covered by the sub-band domains,

10 characterized in that said multi-channel audio signal processing device further comprises:

_____ sub-band combination circuits ~~are present~~, each sub-band combination circuit being supplied with audio signals through respective input channels which lie in one and the same sub-band

15 frequency domain, while the output signals of a sub-band combination circuit covering an associated frequency sub-domain are supplied to ~~a~~ one of said synthesis filters for each output channel of said multi-channel audio signal processing device.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The multi-channel audio signal processing device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the

multi-channel audio signal processing device further comprises
filter means ~~are provided upstream of~~ coupled to inputs of the
5 respective synthesis filters as seen in the signal transport
direction.

3. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ multi-channel audio signal
processing device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said
multi-channel audio signal processing device further comprises
filter means ~~are included in the connection~~ coupled between the
5 relevant sub-band combination circuits and a ~~the~~ respective
synthesis filter.

6. 4. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ multi-channel audio signal
processing device as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said
multi-channel audio signal processing means further comprises
filter means ~~are included in the~~ coupled between the input sub-
5 channels and inputs of the sub-band combination circuits.

5. (Currently Amended) A ~~The~~ multi-channel audio signal
processing device as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the
filter means ~~are formed by~~ comprise elements ~~which introduce for~~
introducing a scale factor.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The multi-channel audio signal processing device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the filter means comprise filters for obtaining a desired virtual spatial widening from which the audio signals can be heard through
5 separate reproduction channels.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~The multi-channel audio signal processing device as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the filter means comprise equalization filters or tone control filters of an alternative kind.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Method~~A method for processing an audio signal comprising the steps:

~~-receiving coded audio signals in different frequency subbands~~-receiving coded audio signals in different frequency sub-band areas;

5 ~~-decoding and synthesizing the audio signals~~

~~-combining the coded audio signals in different signals for each frequency subband~~-combining the coded audio signals in different signals for each frequency sub-bands to form combined signals; and
synthesis filtering and decoding the combined signals.